

REMARKS:

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 6, 11, 16, and 17-20 have been amended for clarification. New claims 23-25 have been added. No new matter has been added. Thus, claims 1-25 are pending and under consideration.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(b):

In item 5 of the outstanding Office Action, claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 11, 12, and 16-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,978,828 ('828).

'828 discusses an apparatus for a universal resource locator (URL) update notification of page content or location changes of a web page via an application program to allow a user to request and receive an indication of whether, when, or how much the contents of a web page has changed.

The system of the present application automatically sends a notification to a user including information for attracting a client system to re-access a homepage when a predetermined condition is satisfied.

The Examiner maintains that the '828 system automatically updates a web page similar to the present application's system of automatically transmitting homepage related information to a client system of a client-server network. In the '828 system, a client wanting to retrieve update information of a web page sends a request including a request header field, and a GET command request field specifying to a server to retrieve whatever information is identified by the request header field (see, column 6, lines 51-57 of '828). The '828 request header field indicates the document types the client wants to receive (see, column 6, lines 57-59 of '828). Then, the client receives the information using the '828 browser having user assignable settings via a setup window and/or the '828 automatically downloads the web page when a current revision minus the last revision is greater than or equal to the value shown in the setup window (see, column 3, lines 14-20, column 7, lines 20-33, and FIG. 8 of '828). The automatic downloading of the web page is triggered based on the settings in the setup window, thus the user must initially prescribe a specific web page and specific objects of the web page the user wants to receive for the server to send the update information. This limits the web page provider to a passive role in sending the update information of the web page.

The present application automatically transmits homepage related information to a client system of a client-server network without requiring a request from the client system. The server of the present invention "automatically" creates "a notification which includes information for

inducing the client system to a homepage when a predetermined condition is satisfied" to induce a user of the client system to access the homepage (see, claims 1, 6, 11, 16-20 of the present application) without a request from the client system. Accordingly, the homepage related information is created "when the client system pulls a homepage from the server" (see, claim 22 of the present application) and the notification including information to attract the client system is automatically sent (see, claim 21 of the present application) is sent to the client system, thereby affording the provider of the homepage an active role in attracting the client system to re-access the homepage. This is unlike the web page provider using the '828 apparatus who is left to a user's discretion when it comes to accessing the web page.

Therefore, because the '828 system and method does not disclose "automatically" notifying a client system of changes to a homepage, the present invention is not anticipated by the '828 system.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103(a):

In item 8 of the outstanding Office Action, claims 3-5, 8-10, and 13-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over '828 and U.S. Patent No. 5,978,807 ('807). The rejection is traversed below and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

'807 discusses a method and apparatus of automatically downloading and storing Internet web pages upon user entry of web page addresses and access interval at which versions of the web page will be downloaded.

The Examiner acknowledges that the '828 system does not teach or suggest a predetermined condition formed by a lapse of a predetermined time from a set point in time, urging input of user information based on which notification of update is made, or that the notification is made via a communicating method depending on the notifying destination information, thus relies of '807 as providing the same. In the '807 system, the user uses a user interface program of a computer system for entering an Internet address of a web page and an access interval according to which versions of the web page will be downloaded; e.g. hourly, daily, or weekly (see, column 2, lines 38-44 of '807). Similar to the '828 system, a user triggers subsequent automatic download of the web page by using a keyboard and a mouse to program the address of the web page (see, column 4, lines 25-30 of '807), thereby limiting the web page provider to a passive role in attracting the user to access the web page.

As mentioned above, the system of the present application affords the web provider an active role by "urging the client system to input user information" to automatically transmit

information to the client system based on the user information (see, claims 4, 9, and 14 of the present application). Unlike the '828 and '807 systems, the system of the present application does not require a user to trigger a download.

The combination of the '828 and the '807 system results in a system for downloading web page content and location information where the downloading is initially triggered by a user but subsequent downloads may be made automatically based on settings set by the user including intervals at which time the web page will be downloaded.

At least for the above mentioned reasons distinguishing independent claims 1, 2, 6, and 11, from which claims 3-5, 8-10, and 13-15 depend from, dependent claims 3-5, 8-10, and 13-15 are patentably distinguishable over the combination of the '828 and '807 systems. The dependent claims are also independently patentable.

Therefore, because the '828 and '807 systems do not teach or suggest an access inducing method for a client-server environment via which notifications are sent to a client server automatically, the present application is not obvious in light of the combination of the '828 and '807 system.

NEW CLAIMS:

New claim 23 and 25 are added to respectively emphasize access inducing methods of the present invention where the method "automatically transmits the homepage update information to the client system based on a previous access of the client system to the homepage" and where the method includes "automatically sending the notification to the client system when the stored homepage information and the contents of the homepage are different".

Further, new claim 24 is added to highlight that the method of the present invention includes "recording homepage related information of a homepage with reference to a point in time when the client system last accessed the homepage ... and sending a notification when the predetermined amount of time has elapsed". This affords a provider of a homepage an active role in attracting clients to access the homepage.

Therefore, new claims 23-25 are patentably distinguishable over the cited references.

CONCLUSION:

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 6, 11, 16, and 17-20 have been amended. New claims 23-25 have been added. Thus, claims 1-25 are pending and under consideration.

If there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested

to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: _____

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By: _____



J. Randall Beckers
Registration No. 30,358

1201 New York Ave, N.W., Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501